

Public Services and Safety

CONTENT OF THESE GOALS, POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

Ensuring that hazards and safety are adequately addressed in development is an integral part of planning for our community. Santa Barbara is committed to ensuring that public infrastructure and services are planned, sited, upgraded and maintained to meet present and future service needs, in a safe, efficient manner consistent with the Principles of Sustainability.

The following goals, policies and implementation actions were either developed during the *Plan Santa Barbara* General Plan update process, carried over from the Safety and Seismic Safety Element in effect in 2011, or were EIR mitigation measures. These new goals and policies and implementation actions are operational with adoption of the General Plan, however, until the existing Safety and Seismic Safety Element is comprehensively updated, it also remains in effect.



Goals, Policies and Implementation

GOALS

- ***Present and Future Service Needs.*** Ensure that public infrastructure and services are planned, sited, upgraded and maintained to meet present and future service needs efficiently, economically and in a manner consistent with a sustainable community and climate change.
- ***Safety and Preparedness.*** Emphasize safety and emergency preparedness as an integral part of land use planning.

City Infrastructure Policies

- PS1. **City Services and Facilities.** City services and facilities shall be built, maintained and operated in a manner to provide adequate services to all residents and coexist compatibly with surrounding land uses.

Possible Implementation Action to be Considered

- PS1.1 Service and Facility Performance. Monitor services and facilities and report status regularly to the Planning Commission.

- PS2. **Financing Capital Improvements.** The City shall pursue a variety of financing sources for the maintenance and enhancement of capital improvement projects.

Possible Implementation Actions to be Considered

- PS2.1 Fees. Investigate increasing fees to finance the cost of capital improvements.

- PS2.2 Bonds. Pursue voter approval of general obligation bonds for major capital improvements.

- PS2.3 Impacts to City-Wide Service. Individual projects shall be evaluated for their impacts on the City's ability to provide adequate services and facilities.

- PS2.4 Timing. Services and facilities shall be available for developments prior to approving projects and/or issuing occupancy or use certificates.

- PS3. **Planning for Climate Change Adaptation.** The City shall include in the Climate Action Plan an estimated timeline of anticipated potential climate changes over the next 100 years to the extent information is available. This timeline will be periodically updated as part of the Adaptive Management Program and will be considered in all City capital projects.

Water Supply and Wastewater

- PS4. **Long-Term Water Supply Plan.** The City shall update and maintain the currency of the City Long-Term Water Supply Plan to accommodate needs for the next 20-year period, including all of the following measures:

1. State Water Project (SWP): The State is updating its reliability analysis on SWP deliveries. The completed document should be reviewed as a part of updating assumptions on the City's expected SWP deliveries. Particular attention should be given to estimates of SWP delivery impacts from sea level rise, as this aspect of climate change was not included in the previous reliability analysis. A conservative assessment of the likelihood, timing, costs, and benefits of Delta improvements should be included. Opportunities to increase the delivery reliability of existing SWP Table A amounts should continue to be explored.
2. Groundwater Banking: Opportunities for groundwater banking exist on the local, regional, and inter-regional level. With reduced snowpack related to climate change, and the potential that replacement capacity in proposed new reservoirs will fall short of replacing this lost storage capacity, banking can provide a valuable means of firming up SWP deliveries and improving the reliability of the City's overall water supply. Legal, technical, and financial issues will need to be considered.
3. Sedimentation Projections and Management Opportunities: Gibraltar Reservoir and Lake Cachuma will continue to experience sedimentation, with potential accelerated sedimentation resulting from wildfires. Periodic bathymetric surveys should continue. Methods for minimizing sedimentation should be assessed, including sedimentation trapping measures and a controlled burn program in conjunction with the U.S. Forest Service and local fire agencies. The City should work with other affected agencies to consider options for removal of sediment from reservoirs, including the potential to implement passage of sediment downstream to preserve reservoir capacity while providing sediment flow to mimic natural river conditions and contribute to beach nourishment.
4. Gibraltar Yield Under Pass Through Agreement: Operations under "pass through" mode have not occurred and there is uncertainty as to the level of deliveries that can be expected. Modeling currently underway should be integrated with overall supply estimates to give a firmer estimate of long term availability.
5. Desalination: The future role of desalination should be evaluated, considering issues such as: State policy encouraging development of desalination capacity, reliability, rate impacts and capital cost for reactivation, energy use, environmental impacts, and value during extended drought and other water supply emergencies.
6. Groundwater Management Analysis: A more sophisticated modeling of groundwater resources should be used to evaluate new opportunities for optimizing the conjunctive use of groundwater. Improved tools for tracking the current state of groundwater basins should be developed, particularly with regard to managing seawater intrusion. Local groundwater recharge, including direct and in-lieu recharge, should be assessed for economic, regulatory, and technical feasibility.
7. Additional Conservation Opportunities: Ongoing efforts to assess the technical and economic merits of the next generation of conservation measures should be used to identify an updated target for demand reduction under the new plan. A rate study should be conducted to identify opportunities to improve conservation pricing signals and update revenue requirements. Existing City ordinances should be reviewed for appropriate updates given changes in technology and statewide water supply conditions.

8. Recycled Water Expansion Opportunities: Opportunities exist to expand recycled water use ranging from increased irrigation uses to industrial uses of recycled water and implementation of broader use of recycled water for toilet flushing. Economic issues and available capacity should be assessed to identify an optimal target for expanded recycled water use under the new plan. Opportunities to partner with neighboring agencies should be explored.
9. Climate Change Monitoring: The LTWSP update process should assess and plan for potential water supply effects of climate change and identify feasible means of tracking the development of such impacts.

PS5. **Analysis of Water Savings.** As part of the Long Term Water Supply Program update, perform a comprehensive analysis of water savings from specific conservation measures, including a cost benefit analysis, to determine which potential new water conservation measures will be most feasible and cost effective for the City to pursue. The City shall incorporate identified measures into the water conservation component of the LTWSP update.

PS6. **Water Conservation Program.** The use of water conservation practices shall be both encouraged and required, as appropriate, for all development projects.

Possible Implementation Actions to be Considered

PS6.1 Water Conservation Programs. Continue and expand the City programs to require or encourage water conservation measures such as services to water customers (e.g., free water check-ups, smart irrigation controller program, rain sensor rebate); public information and education,(web site, elementary students, Green Gardener training, public brochures, videos, and advertising); water-conserving landscape design standards, City building conservation standards, and inverted block rate billing to promote conservation. Work with the County and other jurisdictions to develop regional water conservation programs and projects as appropriate.

PS6.2 Recycled Water. Expand existing programs for use of recycled water for irrigation at parks, schools, golf courses and new development near supplies. Evaluate methods to optimize the feasible use of recycled water in place of potable water, including potential system extensions, and additional uses such as toilet flushing in major commercial, industrial and recreational facilities.

- Evaluate, and implement as feasible, a requirement for dual plumbing to provide recycled water for flushing all toilets and urinals in new commercial and industrial buildings in proximity to existing or planned recycled water lines.
- Investigate incentives for all new development and major remodels adjacent to existing recycled water lines to install dual plumbing and utilize recycled water for toilet flushing.

PS6.3 On-Site Storage and Reuse. Identify more detailed guidelines for use of cisterns and grey water in new development and retrofitting existing development.

PS7. **Regional Cooperation on Water Supply Reliability.** Work with the County and other jurisdictions to develop regional programs and projects to improve water supply reliability.

Possible Implementation Actions to be Considered

- PS7.1 Gibraltar and Cachuma Reservoirs. Work with the County and other jurisdictions to investigate watershed management plans with the purpose of protecting and extending the useful life of the Gibraltar and Cachuma reservoirs.
- PS7.2. Groundwater Banking. Investigate agreements with other water purveyors that have available groundwater storage capacity to store surplus water for later use during drought.
- PS7.3 Dry Weather Purchase Agreements. Work with the County and/or other jurisdictions on a regional approach to agreements with the agricultural industry or other potential sellers of water in times of drought.
- PS7.4 Montecito Water District. Pursue establishing a process to coordinate with the Montecito Water District on the availability of water to service new development and redevelopment on Coast Village Road, ensuring adequate supplies to that portion of the City until such a time as the Montecito Water District can more readily provide additional service.

Waste Management, Recycling and Disposal Policies

- PS8. **Solid Waste Management Programs.** Continue and expand City recycling programs for resource reduction, reuse, and recycling of solid waste.

Possible Implementation Actions to be Considered

- PS8.1 Construction/Demolition Materials Reuse and Recycling. Upgrade standard development requirements for recycling of construction/demolition debris or architectural salvage and incentives for use of renewable, or reused or recycled materials.
- PS8.2 Local Recycled Materials. Promote the use of recycled carpeting, furnishings, wall coverings, and architectural salvage or other building materials – per LEED or comparable standards – in new construction and major renovations. Promote and/or support local stores for reusable and recycled building materials.
- PS8.3 Design and Space Requirements for Waste Management for Private Development. Provide more detailed guidance on space needs and designs for recycling in both new development and to retrofit existing development.
- PS8.4 Waste Management Options. Continue to coordinate with and provide support to the County in its existing partnership with other South Coast agencies to facilitate construction of a waste-to-energy facility at the Tajiguas Landfill, and to explore and establish waste disposal capacity.
- Monitor progress on the waste-to-energy facility and provide annual reports to the City Council to permit prompt action to move this project forward expeditiously. If a new waste-to-energy facility is not anticipated to be operational by 2015, coordinate with other South Coast agencies or proceed independently to identify and implement an alternative waste disposal strategy.
 - Continue to coordinate with the County of Santa Barbara on efforts to identify and establish additional replacement landfill capacity, including potential increased permitted level at Tajiguas.

- Explore and quantify options for disposal at alternative nearby regional waste disposal facilities, including sites in the North County and Ventura County. Several regionally located landfills exist with additional capacity to handle most or all of Santa Barbara's waste.

PS8.5. Increase Diversion. Continue to work with businesses to recycle, reduce or eliminate waste.

Waste Reduction.

- Business Processes. Initiate a program for businesses to optimize business processes that focus on reducing or eliminating waste, which may include City program development and outreach to business, and support of non-profit and community-centered efforts.
- Packaging and Disposable Items: Enact programs to discourage single-use items or eliminate packaging. Such efforts currently include voluntary industry-supported reduction efforts coupled with access to reusable bags.

Expanded Recycling and Organics Programs.

- Textiles, Wood, Film Plastics. Explore the feasibility of adding textiles, wood, film plastics and other materials to recycling or organics stream. This would largely stem from reinitiating recommendations from the South Coast Material Recovery Facility Feasibility Study, providing local control of recycled materials and ensuring that a greater percentage of collected materials would be recovered.
- Shingles and Carpet. Provide market development assistance for recycling of asphalt shingles and carpet by local construction waste recycling operations. Increase capture rate of currently divertable materials
- Unscheduled Hauling. Monitor compliance to the Unscheduled Hauling Ordinance to ensure that the vast majority of construction debris is recycled.
- Increased Sorting. Include a requirement for increased sorting of residual materials through recyclables processing contracts, allowing for increased diversion capture.
- Education and Incentives. Implement an enhanced education and outreach program to maximize the use of existing curbside recycling and organics containers and to convey economic incentives to separate greenwaste, recycling, and construction debris from trash for self-haul customers.

Increase number of customers using diversion services.

- Curbside Rate Structures. Implement progressive rate structures for curbside services to encourage diversion through low cost recycling and composting.
- Directives and Fines. Increase recycling and composting through mandatory ordinances, fines, and/or directives.
- Residential Composting. Extend food scraps composting program to the residential sectors where substantial additional material for composting is available.

Reduce Waste Through Reuse.

- Support Reuse Enterprises. Encourage the patronage of current reuse enterprises through education, outreach, and promotion.

- Education and Promotion. Adjust all educational material to promote reuse before recycling, and promote reuse as part of a waste reduction program for businesses.

Protect Recycling Markets.

- City Purchases. Implement a City procurement plan to buy items made from recycled and composted materials.
- Business Purchases. Develop a waste reduction program for businesses to purchase items made from recycled and or composted materials.

Hazards Avoidance Policies

PS9. **Hazardous Materials Exposure.** Seek to provide facilities and guidance so that new development and redevelopment projects avoid exposure to hazardous materials and provide for their safe disposal.

Possible Implementation Action to be Considered

- PS9.1 Household Hazardous Materials and Wastes. Coordinate with other South Coast jurisdictions and the waste management industry to develop additional household hazardous waste collection facility capacity on the South Coast.
- PS9.2 Electromagnetic Field Development Setbacks. Continue application of prudent avoidance policy in siting development near transmission lines with adequate setbacks.
- PS9.3 Monitor Electromagnetic Field Study. Continue to monitor scientific study of electromagnetic fields and update development policies as necessary.
- PS9.4 Hazardous Materials Exposure Vapor Barrier Study. Conduct an engineering study on the use of vapor barriers as part of site development on properties next to sites with past contamination for further protection against potential vapor intrusion. Identify guidelines for the type and thickness of materials for specified foundation types, proper installation and construction techniques, and general area distances for application.
- PS10. **Bluff Retreat.** All development and redevelopment, renovations and additions on bluff-top parcels shall consider the potential effects of climate change on bluff retreat for the life of the project.

Possible Implementation Actions to be Considered

- PS10.1 Sea Cliff Retreat Formula. Update the existing Safety Element and Local Coastal Plan bluff retreat formula to reflect updated information for the 75-year bluff setback line for use of siting development on sea cliffs.. Once updated, monitor bluff retreat rates and update the formula as needed.
- PS10.2 Sea Cliff Development Guidelines. The following guidelines shall be used for development on sea cliffs, and shall be incorporated into the Local Coastal Plan policy “Sea Cliff Retreat” #1:
- a. Bluff setbacks shall be adequate to address long-term erosion and slope stability issues.

- b. New development on top of a cliff shall be placed at a distance away from the edge of the cliff, such that potential accelerated rates of erosion and cliff material loss associated with climate change-induced sea level rise as projected by the State of California, or an area or site-specific geologic investigation that accounts for climate change, will minimize sea cliff-related impacts, and not seriously affect the structure during the expected lifetime.
- c. The design life of new structures is presumed to be a minimum of 75 years. Exact future rates of accelerated sea cliff retreat are unknown, but are currently projected to be 12 inches per year, potentially accelerating to 1 to 3 feet per year if sea level rise progresses.
- d. The City recognizes the need for owners of threatened coastal properties to perform maintenance and modest improvements to threatened coastal homes and other facilities. The City's goal is to minimize exposure of substantial new improvements to hazards of bluff retreat and avoid the need for installation of environmentally harmful coastal protection structures that could be requested to protect such improvements. To meet these goals, the following guidelines apply:
 - Protection for existing structures shall first focus on techniques that avoid use of coastal protection structures including use of non-intrusive techniques such as drainage control, installation of drought tolerant landscaping, construction of cantilevered grade beam foundations, removal of threatened outbuildings, etc.
 - Relocation of threatened structures further inland on parcels shall be favored over installation of coastal protection structures.
 - The siting of new major improvements shall consider accelerated rates of sea cliff retreat associated with climate change-induced sea level rise as projected by the State of California, or an area or site-specific geologic investigation that accounts for climate change.

PS10.3 Shoreline Management Plan. Develop a comprehensive Shoreline Management Plan to identify, manage and to the extent feasible mitigate or reduce climate change-induced sea level rise impacts upon public facilities and private property along the City shoreline. The City should continue coordination with the Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (BEACON), the County, other South Coast cities, and UCSB to manage coastal issues including:

1. Protection/restoration of natural sand transport and sand supply replenishment projects;
2. Natural bluff restoration, stabilization and erosion control measures;
3. Non-intrusive methods to slow sand transport and retain sand along the beaches that front the City's bluffs; and
4. Funding mechanisms to implement beach replenishment and methods to reduce bluff retreat.

Emergency Preparedness Policies

- PS11. **Emergency Workforce.** Work cooperatively with other jurisdictions in the South Coast Region to ensure in the event of a disaster, essential workers are available and ready to respond adequately and with timeliness.
- PS11.1 City Disaster Service Workers. Encourage city employees to have personal and family disaster plans and understand their role and responsibility as a disaster service worker.
- PS11.2 Public Education. Promote public education on emergency and disaster preparedness to enhance community resilience.
- PS12. **Consideration of People with Disabilities in Emergency Planning.** Update evacuation plans and other emergency or contingency plans with provisions addressing the special needs and measures required to ensure the safety of people with disabilities.
- PS13. **Fire Prevention and Creek Restoration.** Coordinate fire prevention and creek protection planning through the development of a set of best practices within and adjacent to creek corridors or other habitat.
- PS14. **Water System Improvements for Fire Fighting.** Evaluate the potential for additional water system improvements to assist in emergency preparedness and incorporate feasible measures into the City Capital Improvement Plan.
- PS15. **Private Water Supplies for Fire Fighting.** Encourage and assist homeowners in High Fire Hazard Areas to install their own emergency water supplies for fire fighting operations. Assistance could include expedited permit review.

Existing Seismic Safety and Safety Element

[Not Updated as Part of this General Plan Update]

